

Message Text

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R 251315Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3244

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, EGEN, NI
SUBAECT: SPEECH BY NIGERIAN HEAD OF STATE TO LAGOS CONFERENCE

REF: STATE 201841

TEXT OF OBASANJO'S SPEECH FOLLOWS:

BEGIN TEXT

OPENING ADDRESS BY HIS EXCELLENCY LT.-GENERAL
OLUSEGUN OBASANJO, HEAD OF THE FEDERAL MILITARY
GOVERNMENT, COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF THE NIGERIAN
ARMED FORCES AT THE WORLDCONFERENCE FOR ACTION
AGAINST APARTHEID HOLDING IN LAGOS, NIGERIA
FROM 22ND - 26TH AUGUST, 1977

MR SECRETARY-GENERAL,
YOUR EXCELLENCIES,
DISTINGUISHED DELEGATES,
BROTHERS AND SISTERS,
ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE OF NIGERIA,
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IN THE NAME OF THE BLACK AND AFRICAN PEOPLE THROUGHOUT
THE WORLD, IN THE INTEREST OF ALL WHO ARE HINDERED AND
HANDICAPPED IN THE AREA OF BASIC RIGHT AND FREEDOM AND ON
BEHALF OF OUR WORLD ORGANISATION, I WELCOME YOU TO NIGERIA
AND TO THE DELIBERATIONS OF ALL THE WORLD AT THIS WORLD
CONFERENCE FOR ACTION AGAINST APARTHEID.

IT GIVES ME PARTICULAR PLEASURE TO WELCOME DR. KURT WALDHEIM ONCE AGAIN TO NIGERIA. WE HAVE NOTED OVER THE YEARS THE ABLE MANNER IN WHICH HE HAS GUIDED THE AFFAIRS OF OUR ORGANISATION. MR. SECRETARY-GENERAL, YOUR FIRM AND UNBIASED STAND ON ISSUES OF IMPORT, ESPECIALLY ON THE PROBLEMS OF SOUTHERN AFRICA, HAVE BEEN ENCOURAGING. IT IS OUR HOPE THAT DURING YOUR CURRENT TERM AS SECRETARY-GENERAL, PROGRESS WILL BE MADE WITHIN THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM TOWARDS THE ATTAINMENT OF THE PRINCIPLES OF THE CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS, ESPECIALLY ON ISSUES OF FREEDOM, JUSTICE AND HUMAN DIGNITY IN SOUTHERN AFRICA, AND INDEED EVERYWHERE IN THE WORLD WHERE MAN'S INHUMANITY TO HIS FELLOWMAN PREVAILS.

I ALSO SPECIALLY WELCOME PRESIDENT KENNETH KAUNDA OF ZAMBIA WHO HAS CONSISTENTLY DEMONSTRATED IN WORDS AND ACTION TOTAL AND UNFLINCHING COMMITMENT TO LIBERATION STRUGGLE IN SOUTHERN AFRICA. HIS PRESENCE AT THIS WORLD CONFERENCE FOR ACTION AGAINST APARTHEID IS A FURTHER TESTIMONY OF THIS COMMITMENT. I FEEL CERTAIN THAT HIS KEY NOTE ADDRESS TO THIS CONFERENCE WILL BE AN INSPIRATION TO ITS DELIBERATIONS.

THAT THIS WORLD CONFERENCE IN TAKING PLACE IN LAGOS, IS TO US IN NIGERIA, VERY SIGNIFICANT. WE IN NIGERIA DO NOT REGARD THIS CONFERENCE AS JUST ANOTHER UNITED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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NATIONS MEETING TAKING PLACE IN LAGOS. FOR US, THIS IS A GATHERING OF MEN AND WOMEN OF CONSCIENCE FROM ALL THE CORNERS OF THE GLOBE WHO HAVE COME TO LAGOS TO HARMONISE VIEWS AND WORK OUT PROGRAMME OF ACTION OF ALL NATIONS AND PEOPLES OF THE WORLD TO EFFECT COMPLETE LIBERATION OF SOUTHERN AFRICA WITHOUT DELAY AND WITHOUT UNDUE SUFFERING AND TO BRING ABOUT THE ERADICATION OF THE INHUMAN POLICY OF APARTHEID IN SOUTH AFRICA.

THERE ARE THREE BROAD POSSIBILITIES OPEN TO ME TODAY. I COULD INFEST THIS HALL WITH A SPIRITED ENTHUSIASM AND INDULGE IN A FEAST OF WORDS WHICH RELATE THE PROGRESS WE HAVE MADE IN REMOVING AND REDUCING SUFFERING FROM THE INTER-RELATIONS OF MANKIND UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE UNITED NATIONS. SECONDLY, I COULD RAIL AND IVEIGLE, BOMBARD AND INCITE THE REST OF THE WORLD AGAINST THOSE WHO HAVE INSTALLED IN IN OUR MIDST, CONTINUE TO MAINTAIN AND APPEAR DEDICATED TO SUSTAINING A SYSTEM OF OPPRESSION AGAINST THOSE WHO HAVE A BETTER CLAIM TO GOVERNANCE THAN THE OPPRESSORS. THIRDLY, I COULD RE-ANALYSE THE SITUATION IN SOUTH AFRICA AND ESTABLISH A COURSE OF ACTION AND SET UP ALTERNATIVES WHICH ARE OPEN TO AFRICA AND THE WORLD TO FIND A SOLUTION THE THE QUESTIONS

RAISED BY APARTHEID FOR ALL HUMAN BEINGS BUT IN PARTICULAR
FOR ALL BLACK AND AFRICAN PEOPLE THROUGHOUT THE WORLD.

I CANNOT FOLLOW THE FIRST COURSE BECAUSE AFRICAN AND
MOST PEOPLES OF THE SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE HAVING SURVIVED
PHYSICAL VIOLENCE IMPOSED BY FELLOW HUMAN BEINGS ARE NOW
PRIMARILY THE VICTIMS OF MENTAL VIOLENCE IN THE FORM OF
WORDS WHICH ARE MEANT TO ADN DEFINITELY DIVERT ATTENTION
FROM THEIR PROBLEMS. IN THE SPHERE OF SOCIO-ECONOMIC
PROBLEMS WE HAVE WITNESSED THE VERBAL GYMNASTICS WHICH
TRANSFORMED OUR SITUATION FROM ONE OF BACKWARDNESS TO UNDER-
DEVELOPED TO DEVELOPING, THROUGH BEING LEAST DEVELOPED TO
BEING MOST AFFECTED NATIONS. YET THERE IS NOT MUCH
DISCERNIBLE CHANGE IN THE QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE
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DIMENSIONS OF OUR SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CONDITIONS OVER THIRTY
YEARS AFTER THE WORLD WAS DRAGGED INTO AND RECOVERED FROM
THE MOST WASTEFUL FORM OF SOLUTION TO HUMAN DIFFERENCES.
IN THE SPHERE OF POLITICAL PROBLEMS WE ARE TOLD WE HAVE
SBEEN SAVED FROM COMMUNISM AND TOTALITARIANISM, SAVED FOR
DEMOCRACY, DECOLONISED AND MADE SOVEREIGN. YET IN MOST
OF OUR COUNTRIES RULERS AND RULED ARE NOT FREE FROM THE
FEAR OF DANGERS TO THEIR RIGHTS TO POLITICAL SELF-
DETERMINATIONS. IN THIS SPHERE ALSO WE CONTINUE TO
MANUFACTURE AND SYNTHESISE WORDS WHICH GIVE THE IMPRESSION
OF PROGRESS, HENCE APARTHEID HAS BECOME A "WAR CRIME".

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SP-02 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SS-15 DHA-05 IO-13 CU-04
STR-04 CEA-01 /111 W

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I DECIDED TO DISCARD THE SECOND COURSE AND NOT TO RESORT TO ANGER AND EMOTIONAL OUTBURST BECAUSE AS AN AFRICAN AND AS THE HEAD OF GOVERNMENT OF AN AFRICAN NATION I OWE A DUTY AND HAVE A RESPONSIBILITY NOT TO RAISE FALSE HOPES OR INDULGE IN MEANINGLESS EXCITEMENT. I HAVE CHOSEN THEREFORE THE LAST POSSIBILITY WHICH IS MOST SUITED TO THE OCCASION AND WILL LEAST ENCOURAGE THE ENGINEERS OF APARTHEID AND THEIR FRIENDS IN THE THOUGHT THAT TIME AND OTHER RESOURCES WILL CONTINUE TO BE CONSUMED BY VERBALISATIONS WHICH LIMIT THE OPPORTUNITY FOR ACTION.

I AM ON RECORD AS SUGGESTING THAT MOST OF THE NATIONS THAT ATTAINED POLITICAL INDEPENDENCE SINCE 1945 ARE SPONSORED STATES THE IMPLICATION OF THIS IS THAT THEIR SPONSORS CONTINUE TO DICTATE DIRECTLY AND INDIRECTLY, TELEGUIDE OPENLY AND SUBLIMINALLY THE PACE, TONE, DIRECTION AND QUALITY OF THE LIVES OF THE CITIZENS OF THE SPONSORED STATES. THE GREATEST STRENGTH OF THE SPONSOR STATES IS THAT THEY HAVE SUCCESSFULLY BLURRED THE AWARENESS OF THE LEADERS OF THE SPONSORED STATES TO THE TRUE SITUATION AND CONTINUE TO ENCOURAGE THEM IN THEIR EXPECTATION THAT THE ACHIEVEMENT OF SOCIAL, POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IS ROUND THE CORNER. THIS IS THE BASIS OF OUR CALL FOR A LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PROCESS OF MENTAL LIBERATION ON THE CONTINENT OF AFRICA AND IN MOST OF THE SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE. THIS ALSO IS THE BASIS AND JUSTIFICATION FOR SELF-RELIANCE IN ALL OUR ENDEAVOURS. THE PROCESSES OF MENTAL LIBERATION AND SELF-RELIANCE IMPEL UPON US NEW STRATEGIES IN FULFILLING OUR INTERESTS.

IN THIS REGARD IT IS WORTH NOTING THAT WHEN THE WIND OF CHANGE' CYCLONE STARTED IT WAS NOT EXPECTED TO BLOW THROUGH THE WHOLE OF AFRICA. IT WAS ASSUMED THAT THOSE TERRITORIES IN AFRICA WITH SIZEABLE COLONIES OF SETTLERS FROM THE NORTHERN HEMISPHERE WILL RETAIN THEIR BUILT-IN INJUSTICES AT BEST ASSIMILATING DESERVING NATIVES. THIS ASSUMPTION PROVIDED THE FOUNDATION FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE LISBON-PRETORIA-SALISBURY AXIS. THAT WE SUCCEEDED IN DETACHING AND DESTROYING ONE LEG OF THE TRIPED HAS LARGELY BEEN DUE TO OUR OWN EFFORTS AND MATERIAL SUPPORT OF OUR FRIENDS AND PECULIAR SOLUTIONS THAT ARE STILL NOT UNDERSTOOD OR WELCOME BY THOSE WHO WOULD LIKE TO BE COUNTED AMONG OUR FRIENDS. IF WE HAVE THREATENED SALISBURY IT HAS BEEN LARGELY THROUGH THE BLOOD AND SWEAT OF OUR LIBERATION FIGHTERS. IN ALL THESE EFFORTS WE ARE ALSO GRATEFUL FOR THE "SYMPATHY"* OF SOME OTHER FRIENDS. WE ARE EVEN APPRECIATIVE AD THE EFFORTS OF SUCH FRIENDS IN SEEKING PEACEFUL SOLUTIONS TO

THESE PROBLMES. WHILE WE SHALL CONTINUE TO BE OPEN TO THESE SYMPATHISERS AND RERIMIVE TO INITIATIVES FOR A PEACEFUL SOLUTION, WE ARE RESOLVED TO THROW INTO THE STRUGGLE ALL OUR RESOURCES TO REMOVE IAN SMITH AND HIS FELLOW SONCNI-RATORS.

BEKRD AND BEYOND ZIMBABWE AND NAMIBIA WHERE THE ATTEMPTS TO ESTABLISH THE SYSTEM OF RACIAL SEGREGATION ARE FAILING IS THE CITADEL OF APARTHEID. OHTRASILY WE MISTAKE THE MORAL AND POLITICAL ASPECTS OF THE SYSTEM FOR THE ROOT CAUSE AND SUSTAINER OF THE SYSTEM. ON HIS DEATH BED THE ILLUSTRIOUS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AFRICAN SOLDIER CHAKA THE ZULU IS REPORTED TO HAVE WARNED AGAINST LAND GRABBING BY WHITE SETTLERS. THIS VISION HAS BEEN FULFILLED BEYOND ALL EXPECTATIONS. APARTHEID IS ABOUT KEEPING 80 PER CENT OF THE RESOURCES OF SOUTH AFRICA FOR LESS THAN 20 PER CENT OF THE POPULATION CHOSEN ON THE BASIS OF RACE. APARTHEID IS ABOUT DESTROYING AND DISTORTING THE QUALITY OF LIFE OF 18 MILLION CITIZENS OF SOUTH AFRICA SO THAT 4 MILLION OTHER CITIZENS OF SOUTH AFRICA CAN HAVE THE GOOD LIFE. APARTHEID IS ABOUT SUSTAINING THE MYTH OF WHITE SUPREMACY IN SOUTH AFRICA. APARTHEID IS EQUALLY ABOUT THE MUTUAL SUPPORT WHICH THE OECD AND SOUTH AFRICAN ECONOMIES RENDER EACH OTHER. IN ALL THESE, APARTHEID IS ABOUT RESTRICTIONS AND LIMITATIONS TO THE FULFILMENT OF EVERY BLACK AND AFRICAN PERSON AS A FULL HUMAN BEING. FOR AS LONG THE SYSTEM OF APARTHEID REMAINS INTACT IN PRETORIA, SO LONG WILL OUR ASPIRATIONS FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND OUR FAIR SHARE OF THE WORLD'S RESOURCES BE UNATTAINABLE.

IF THE FOUNDATION AND ROOTS OF APARTHEID ARE TOO REMOTE, IF WE ARE TOO BLINDED BY ECONOMIC AND IDEOLOGICAL INTERESTS TO ACKNOWLEDGE THESE FACTS AS INJUSTICE, IF OUR STORE OF FORESIGHT IS TOO LIMITED TO PERCEIVE THE GATHERING STORM WE CANNOT LET THE WORLD IGNORE THE PURELY MORAL QUESTIONS RAISED BY APARTHEID. WE WILL NOT LET THESE QUESTIONS BE COVERED BY A FOAM OF WORDS AND HELPLESSNESS. WE WILL NOT STAND BY AND BE SATISFIED WITH RESOLUTIONS AND PRAYERS, OR WITH ACTS OF CHARITY TY MEN AND WOMEN OF GOODWILL WHO PARTAKE OF THE ADVANTAGES OF THE SYSTEM WHILE PRETENDING TO SYMPATHISE WITH US. IT WILL NO LONGER HELP FOR OUR SO CALLED FRIENDS TO ADOPT PIOUS POSTURES AND PREACH NON-VIOLENCE WHEN OUR ENEMIES ARE BUSY INFLECTING MENTAL AND PHYSICAL VIOLENCE ON US. WE SHALL NO LONGER JUST WATCH THE RACISMS OF PRETORIA DEVISE IMPROVEMENTS TO THEIR MACHINERY OF TERROR AND REPRESSION. WE SHOULD NO LONGER JUST BE OUTRAGED - WE MUST ACT TO

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SP-02 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01

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DISCOURAGE THE ENEMIES OF AFRICA AND HUMANITY, WE MUST ACT
TO DESTROY THE SYSTEM OF APARTHEID AND REMOVE IT FROM OUR MIDST.

DURING AND THROUGHOUT THIS CONFERENCE, DELEGATES AND
INDEED THE WHOLE WORLD WILL BE TREATED TO A MOVIE OF HORROR.
HORRENDOUS TALES OF CARNAGE WILL BE TOLD. STORIES OF AMPUTATED
BODIES AND TRUNCATED MINDS WILL BE HEARD. PASSING OF PIOUS
RESOLUTIONS WILL NO LONGER DO FOR US. OTHERS OWE US WHAT WE
IMAGINE THEY WILL GIVE US BUT WE OWE OURSELVES WHAT WE MUST
GIVE OURSELVES. WE CAN FORGIVE OTHERS THEIR DEBTS TO US
BUT THE DEBT TO THE SELF MUST BE PAID. IN THE WORDS OF
MY WORTHY PREDECESSOR "WE CANNOT PRETEND THAT WE ARE UNAWARE
OF THE MACHINATIONS AND CONSPIRACY AGAINST OUR CONTINENT BY
NOT JUST THE RACISTS OF SOUTH AFRICA BUT EVEN BY THOSE WHO
PRETEND TO BE THE FRIENDS OF THIS CONTINENT BUT WHOSE SOLE
INTEREST IS IN WHAT THEY CAN GET OUT OF US." IN THIS REGARD
WE WILL CONTINUE OUR MORAL AND MATERIAL SUPPORT FOR THE
LIBERATION MOVEMENTS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA. WITH EVERY PASSING
DAY THE BLACK PEOPLE OF THE WORLD ARE DRAWING NEARER THE
STAGE OF DIRECT INVOLVEMENT IN THE STRUGGLE AGAINST APARTHEID
IN SOUTH AFRICA. WE AS A NATION WILL ACQUIT OURSELVES
CREDITABLY WHEN THAT STAGE IS REACHED. WE WISH TO SALUTE THE
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COURAGE OF OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS WHO ARE IN THE FRONTLINE OF
THE STRUGGLE IN SOUTHERN AFRICA. WE WISH TO RECALL AND PAY
DUE HOMAGE TO THE HEROES OF SOWETO AND OTHERS INVOLVE IN THE

JUNE 16TH 1977 CHALLENGE TO . WE ARE AWARE OF THEIR CONTINUING STRUGGLE AND SACRIFICE AND THE HEROIC STAND OF THE YOUTHS AND STUDENTS OF SOUTH AFRICA. WE TAKE COGNIZANCE OF THEIR POTENTIAL. THE UNDAUNTED YOUTHS OF SOWETO ARE THE NEW ADDITIONAL WEAPONS WHICH THE SYSTEM OF APARTHEID HAS DESIGNED. IN TIME THIS NEW WEAPON WILL BE HARNESSSED WITH OTHERS TO DESTROY APARTHEID.

AS I SUGGESTED EARLIER HOWEVER, IT IS IN THE ECONOMIC ASPECTS THAT APARTHEID IS MOST CRIMINAL AND MOST DANGEROUS. IT IS IN THAT ASPECT TOO THAT IT IS MOST VULNERABLE. IT IS THEREFORE HERE THAT IT MUST BE ATTACKED MOST FEROCIOUSLY. MULTI-NATIONALS HAVE CONTRIBUTED IN NO SMALL MEASURE TO THE EVIL MACHINERY OF APARTHEID. WE WELCOME THE PRESENT EFFORTS BEING MADE WITH THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM TO REGULATE THE ACTIVITIES OF MULTI-NATIONALS BY MEANS OF LEGALLY BINDING INTERNATIONAL INSTRUMENTS. WE ALSO NOTE THE ATTEMPTS OF SOME GOVERNMENTS TO DRAW UP GUIDELINES FOR THEIR MULTI-NATIONALS OPERATING IN SOUTHERN AFRICA. WHILE THESE EFFORTS SEEK TO RESPOND TO THE GENUINE CONCERNS OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY, THE PRACTICAL UTILITY AND EFFECTIVENESS OF THE FINAL INSTRUMENTS DEPEND LARGELY ON THE POLITICAL DECISIONS IN THE HOME COUNTRIES OF THESE CORPORATIONS TO ADJUST THEMSELVES TO EVOLVING PATTERNS OF INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC RELATIONS. THE FUNDAMENTAL ISSUE IN SOUTH AFRICA FOR INSTANCE IS NOT EQUAL PAY FOR EQUAL WORK, OR ABOLITION OF JOB RESERVATION OR INSURANCE FOR WORKERS. THE CORE OF THE PROBLEM IS THE VERY SYSTEM WITHIN WHICH MULTI-NATIONALS OPERATE. HOW CAN ANYONE BUILD OR SUSTAIN A "NON-APARTHEID" ESTABLISHMENT IN AN ATMOSPHERE THAT IS POLLUTED WITH THE STENCH OF APARTHEID*

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FOR OUR PART, WE ARE CONVINCED THAT THERE CAN BE NO COMPROMISE ON THE APARTHEID PROBLEMS OF SOUTH AFRICA. WE FIND IT DIFFICULT TO FRATERNISE WITH ENTERPRISES AND ORGANISATIONS THAT ARE PARTY TO THE SYSTEM THAT HOLDS OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA IN BONDAGE AND REGARDS US ON ACCOUNT OF OUR COLOUR AS SUB-HUMAN. WE CANNOT CONTINUE TO CO-OPERATE WITH THOSE THAT BENEFIT FROM US WHILE AT THE SAME TIME REAP LARGE PROFITS FROM THE SWEAT AND BLOOD OF OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS HELD IN SLAVERY. IT IS OUR SOVEREIGN DUTY TO REVIEW OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH THEM AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION.

IN THIS REGARD, WE ARE COMPILING INFORMATION ON ALL THOSE GOVERNMENTS WHO PRETEND TO BE AFRICA'S FRIENDS BUT ALLOW THEMSELVES TO BE USED AS WEAPONS LAUNDRY FOR SOUTH AFRICA - ALL FOR LIMITED ECONOMIC ADVANTAGES. WE ARE MOUTING A SURVEILLANCE ON ALL THOSE ENTERPRISES WHO DEPEND ON OUR RAW MATERIALS AND MARKETS BUT CONTINUE TO HELP OUR ENEMIES. SUCH ENTERPRISES

MUST DECIDE NOW TO CHOOSE BETWEEN US AND OUR ENEMIES AND ALL THAT GOES WITH THEIR CHOICE. WE HAVE A FESTERING SORE ON WHICH THESE FLIES HAVE LANDED AND ARE FEEDING IN FULL GLARE OF THE WORLD. AND WHEN WE MOVE TO DESTROY THESE FLIES, NO ONE SHOULD COMPLAIN.

FOREIGN CONTRACTORS WHO ARE KNOWN TO HAVE LINKS OR CONNECTIONS WITH SOUTH AFRICA ARE ALREADY BARRED FROM TAKING PART IN ANY TENDERS OF ANY KIND OR NATURE FOR ANY TRANSACTIONS OR CONSTRUCTION WORKS IN NIGERIA. AN ECONOMIC INTELLIGENCE UNIT HAS BEEN SET UP TO ENSURE SUCCESSFUL IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS POLICY DIRECTIVE.

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INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03
SP-02 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SS-15 DHA-05 IO-13 CU-04
STR-04 CEA-01 /111 W

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THE PEOPLE NIGERIA HAVE DEMONSTRATED THE DEPTH OF THEIR COMMITMENT BY THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A SOUTHERN AFRICA RELIEF FUND. THEY HAVE SHOWN BY THEIR GENEROUS CONTRIBUTION TO THIS FUND THAT NO SACRIFICE IS TOO LITTLE AND NO EFFORT TOO BIG TO DEMONSTRATE OUR CONCERN ABOUT AND SOLIDARITY WITH THE MAJORITY OF THE PEOPLE OF SOUTHERN AFRICA. WE ARE COMMITTED IN THIS FUND TO THE STRUGGLE AND WELFARE OF THE OPPRESSED PEOPLES IN THE SOUTHERN PART OF AFRICA.

IT IS OUR SINCERE HOPE THAT AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE DELIBERATIONS OF THIS WORLD CONFERENCE, A DECLARATION WILL EMERGE, A DECLARATION WHICH WILL NOT ONLY REAFFIRM OUR SUPPORT AND SOLIDARITY FOR THE OPPRESSED PEOPLES OF SOUTHERN AFRICA AND THE LIBERATION MOVEMENTS, BUT DEMONSTRATE THE COMMITMENT OF ALL GOVERNMENTS AND PEOPLES OF THE WORLD TO

TAKE ACTIONS TO PUT AN END TO APARTHEID. WE HOPE TO SEE
POSTITIVE ACTION IN THE DIRECTION OF THE CESSATION OF NEW
INVESTMENTS IN SOUTH AFRICA, AND THE PROGRESSIVE DISMANTLING OF
EXISTING ONES, THE CESSATION OF SUPPLY OF ARMS, SPARE PARTS
AND COMPONENTS AND THE CANCELLATION OF EXISTING LICENCES FOR
THEIR MANUFACTURE. THE CONFERENCE SHOULD ALSO CALL FOR CESSA-
TION OF ALL NUCLEAR COLLABORATIONS WITH SOUTH AFRICA. THIS
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MUCH WE MUST ALL DO FOR HUMANITY. LET THIS CONFERENCE BE A
CONFERENCE OF CONSCIENCE AND ACTION.

FINALLY, WE ARE CHEERED BY THE HISTORY OF MAN'S STRUGGLE
AGAINST EVIL. THE ASCENT OF MAN HAS ALWAYS BEEN THREATENED BY
MAN HIMSELF. HWEVER, AT EACH STAGE AND DURING SUCH THREATS
MAN HIMSELF HAS ALWAYS SUCCEDED IN CALLING UP ENOUGH INDIG-
NATION AND COURAGE TO DEFEAT AND DESTROY THE GERM OF SELF-
DESTRUCTION WHICH FROM TIME TO TIME REARS ITS HEAD TO DELAY
OR FRUSTRATE MAN'S PROGRESS. APARTHEID IS THE LATEST IN THE
LINE OF SUCH THREATS TO HUMAN PROGRESS. I AM CALLING ON THE
WORLD, REGARDLESS OF MATERIAL AND OTHER SHORT-TERM ADVANTAGES
TO JOIN FORCES WITH US AGAINST APARTHEID AND ALL WHICH THAT
EVIL PHILOSOPHY REPRESENTS. I MUST HOWEVER, STATE THAT IN
ADDITION TO RESPONSE TO OUR CALL WHICH WILL BE VALUABLE, WE ARE
RESOLVED AND READY TO FULFIL OUR DESTINY. IF APARTHEID IS
NOT DISMANTLED, IT MAY YET BE THE CAUSE OF THE GREATEST HUMAN
CONFLICT AND TRAGEDY IN THE WORLD. IT IS MY GREATEST HOPE
THAT THE WORLD WILL BE SPARED THE GREAT TRAGEDY WHICH CAN
ONLY BE THE CONSEQUENCE OF FAILURE TO REMOVE THE SYSTEM OF
APARTHEID IN SOUTH AFRICA.

I WISH YOU FRUITFUL DELIBERATIONS.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TEXT, APARTHEID, SPEECHES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 25-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977LAGOS09700
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770307-0938
Format: TEL
From: LAGOS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770824/aaaaaubb.tel
Line Count: 479
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 1d697053-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 9
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE 201841
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1489080
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: AECT: SPEECH BY NIGERIAN HEAD OF STATE TO LAGOS CONFERENCE
TAGS: PFOR, EGEN, NI, (OBASANJO, OLUSEGUN)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/1d697053-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009